**The Structure of the AP U.S. History Exam**

**Multiple choice:**

• 80 multiple choice questions

• 55 minutes

• 50% of the total exam

Five minute break between multiple choice and free response section

**Free response section:**

• 15 minute mandatory reading period

**Document based question (DBQ)**

• 45 minute suggested writing time

• 22.5% of total exam grade

**Standard essay questions:**

• Answer one question each from two groups of two questions

• 35 minute suggested writing time for each essay

• Each essay 13.75% of the total exam grade

• Generally, the first group of questions will be pre-1865

• Generally, the second group of questions will be post-1865